

Bloomfield Citizen.

WEEKLY JOURNAL

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THE CITIZEN solicits contributions from the general public on any subject—political, religious, educational, or social—as long as they do not contain any personal attacks.

All communications must be accompanied by the writer's name, not necessarily for publication, but as an evidence of good faith. Advertisements for insertion in the current week must be in hand not later than Friday noon.

SATURDAY, MAY 5, 1906.

THE WATER BOND ISSUE.

The proposition to issue bonds to the amount of about \$20,000 for the purpose of extending water mains has aroused much discussion, and the majority public sentiment seems to be strongly adverse to the scheme. The opposition is not against the extension of water mains where there is an evident need for them, but the general impression is that the scheme now before the Town Council anticipates by several years the necessity of water mains in some of the streets proposed.

It is also urged that before any action is taken towards extending the water supply system an accurate and complete financial statement as to operating expenses and profits of the water department be forthcoming. Parties who have closely studied the elaborate plan of extension recommended by the water committee have reached a different conclusion as to the necessities of the town for more water mains either for domestic purposes or for fire protection.

The water committee's plan calls for 8,000 feet of pipe on upper Broad street, together with an additional measuring meter on upper Broad street, and other supplies costing several hundred dollars. There is said to be no present urgent necessity for the upper Broad street main. There would be but a trifling amount of revenue from it, and it is suggested that it be cut out of this year's recommendation entirely.

It is generally admitted that but little revenue, if any, would be derived from the extension of water mains in the Silver Lake section, yet the water committee's plan calls for water mains in Thomas, Edison and Alvin streets, and in the latter two streets there is an imperative necessity for fire protection. The extension as proposed in the Silver Lake district calls for 3,300 feet of water mains.

Admitting the need of fire protection, an examination of the premises shows that a main on Bloomfield avenue from Grove street to the Belleville line will afford fire protection to the Silver Lake district, and 1,600 feet of main instead of 3,300 feet will meet the requirements. The taxable valuation of Silver Lake property does not warrant such a lavish expenditure as proposed by the water committee.

From the present terminus of the water main on Franklin avenue it was originally proposed to extend the water main along Franklin avenue to the Glen Ridge Cemetery entrance, a distance of 2,800 feet. The plan was afterwards modified to take in only about 800 feet. An investigation of the locality shows that the only present demand for water in that neighborhood is from the Polish Catholic Church and two or three dwelling houses, and 250 feet of main will meet the demand.

There is no demand for water in Carter street, and not likely to be for a generation or more, and that street can be dismissed from present calculations. In Willard place there is a development in evidence that warrants the extension of water mains in that street.

Belleville avenue and Edgewood road is another section where there is no present demand for water, and no evidence of a near future demand. The main on Belleville avenue now ends at the stone house near the cemetery. The committee's recommendation is to extend the main to the Glen Ridge line, about 270 feet, with the cemetery on one side and swamp lots on the opposite side of the street, and it would seem that for the present that part of the committee's recommendation could be judiciously eliminated.

The Myrtle avenue recommendation of several thousand feet of water mains is another instance of where the water committee is dipping far into the future. The committee proposes a main to Fitzherbert street far out on the local prairie. Sixteen hundred feet of main in Myrtle avenue north will meet the present needs of Myrtle avenue, and with appearances will answer for several years. There is at present but one applicant for water in Myrtle avenue.

In John street the water committee recommends 800 feet of main. Inquiry there shows that 400 feet will meet all needs in that street.

After making a careful comparison between the water committee's extravagant recommendation and the needs of

the town in the matter of water main extensions the conclusion is reached that the sum of not over \$5,000 expended in laying water pipes will be ample for all requirements for the current year, and if the water department is making the profit that the water committee asserts that it is, there is no need for issuing any bonds at all.

The water committee opposes the suggestion that its plan of water main extension be cut in three annual periods on the ground that by making one job of the work much more favorable bids could be obtained. The water committee evidently overlooks the fact that the small savings in bids would be more than offset by the large amount of unproductive capital buried in the ground in anticipation of a development that will be years in making.

The policy that is to be pursued in extending water mains is a natural sequence of the purchase of the water plant. Much depends on a right solution of the problem at the start. In order to make a right start the members of the Council should positively know all about the financial element in the question. If extensions of the water mains are dependent upon bond issues it is an evidence that the water department is not self supporting. If, however, as has been stated, the water department receives excess operating expenses, an application of a percentage of the surplus to the extension of mains ought to keep the department abreast at all times with all legitimate demands upon it.

Members of the Council should keep in mind that they are about to establish a precedent for the water department. If the principle is once established that extension of the water plant is to be carried on with bond issues the prospect of an enormous public debt confronts this town. If, on the other hand, the cost of operating and extending the water plant can be confined within the receipts of the plant, municipal ownership will be voted a decided success. Advocates of municipal ownership must see to it that this, the first trial of their pet theory here in Bloomfield, shall not be wrecked in a turbulent flood of bonds. Money flows like water through a sluice gate of bonds, but the mill will never grind with the water that has passed.

Church Services.
The Rev. Edgar S. Ware will preach in Unity Church, Montclair, tomorrow. At the 10:45 service his subject will be "The New Knowledge and the Old Faith." The annual church meeting and election of officers will be held on Wednesday evening, May 9th.

The installation services will be held Sunday evening, May 6th, at 7:30. Rev. James H. Root, D. D., of Philadelphia, will preach the sermon. Rev. Messrs. Croft, Wright, D. D., of New York will give the charge to the minister and Rev. Walter Beld Hunt of Orange the right hand of fellowship. The two former ministers of Unity Church will participate. Rev. Arthur Grant of Elizabeth will make the installation prayer and Mr. Leslie Willis Sprague of New York giving the address to the people. It is hoped that Rev. Robert Collier of New York will be present and participate. Special music will be rendered by the choir and organist of the church, assisted by Mrs. Goodell, Mrs. Julius F. Geertz, Mr. Elliott Marshall and Mr. Robert Gebman. Mrs. Goodell, the violin, piano and organ.

Maximum Tax Rate.
Hillery maximum tax rate bill repealer have been introduced by Mr. Martin and Mr. Heck of Bergen in the House and by Mr. Colby in the Senate. After a number of hearings sentiment against the obnoxious Hillery bill became so strong that in the fear that a repealer would go through, the Heck bill was allowed to come up in the House and passed. Meanwhile Senator Hillery introduced his new maximum tax rate bill, No. 103, providing that this year the tax rate shall be the same as last and that hereafter it shall be reduced gradually to a maximum of \$1.75. Lowry's bill might not pass the House, and this bill might not pass the Senate, but the Heck repealer might get through the Senate, the new Hillery bill was amended to provide for the repeal of the old. Thus the Colby men in the House were compelled to vote for a measure they did not altogether like and the new Hillery bill became a law.

The Free Lance—A Genuine Hit.
John Philip Sousa's new opera, "The Free Lance," which Klav & Erlanger have given a most sumptuous production, has made a genuine hit at the New Amsterdam Theatre. The music is by far the most attractive Mr. Sousa has composed for the light operatic stage and from a general standpoint exceeds in melody and brilliancy of composition the best numbers of his former hits. "The Bridge-Built," "The Captain," "Josephine," by his unobtrusive money methods predominates in the fun-making of the opera, in which he is splendidly seconded by Jeannette Lowrie, the quality and cunningly comic Griselida, the goose girl. Nell Bergen in the prima donna role of the Princess Yolande is doing the best work of her career and is receiving really remarkable praise for her songs, "Three Love Stories," in the first act, and "The Carrier Pigeon," in the second. Seats for "The Free Lance" can be secured by mail or telegram.

Peppered in New York.
George E. Baldwin, who resides at No. 13 Maple street, was badly hurt in an encounter with two unknown men in New York. He was on his way to the ferry when, in crossing West street, he claims he was set upon by two men, who knocked him down and beat him. Baldwin says he would have been killed but for the timely interference of a "long-shoreman," who drove the men away and helped him into the ferryhouse. Four of Baldwin's teeth were loosened and his face was cut. He claims the men wore brass knuckles.

Improvement at Watessing Centre.
A. F. Condit, the owner of a large plot of property at Watessing Centre, has contracted for 5,000 loads of the dirt being excavated by the Westinghouse-Church-Kerr Company for the new factory site at Watessing. Mr. Condit will fill his property to the grade of Dodd street, which will be a great improvement. Many Watessing property owners are taking advantage of the low price at which the Westinghouse company is selling the dirt from the excavation and filling their properties.

The Young Men's Republican Club.
TO THE EDITOR OF THE CITIZEN:
SIR: Those long familiar with field politics can recall several struggles between the younger elements in the predominant party for control of the local machinery.

One of these struggles dated the days when the town election held in the lecture room of the Presbyterian Church, at which the Richardsons' election as a map of the Township Committee was jockeyed by the younger element of days as a victory for the young men.

Another of these struggles in the powers that be and the power would like to be dates back a score of years, when a counterpart of the control of the local Republican organization led to considerable feeling between the factions.

The tendency of to-day is in contrast with times past. The Young Men's Republican Club of to-day instead of having to struggle for established powers and local prizes for recognition, meets on the city with cordial welcome and encouragement. People interested in the welfare of the town are, generally speaking, well pleased to see an organization of young men such as the Young Men's Republican Club taking an active interest in public affairs.

Crokers predicted that the young men's organization would be shattered by individual ambitions of the members for political preferment.

The young men's club was the price of a presidential campaign, and contrary to expectations survived and to a hand in a lively State campaign near after, and appears to be in good shape to take a still livelier hand in the important State campaign approaching and also the accompanying local campaign.

The predominating sentiment of the young men's organization seems to be in sympathy with the movement led by State Senator Everett Colby and the young men appear to be determined to apply to local political affairs the principles that Everett Colby and his friends are seeking to enforce in State politics. The cordiality with which the young men's organization has been welcomed into the field of local politics is a good omen for the political future.

The leading spirits in the young men's club are young men who enjoy the confidence of the citizens of the town in general, and thus far the political work of the organization has been marked by a commendable degree of conservatism. The young men's club had in its power last fall all the local newspapers if it had been so disposed. That it made public interests the first consideration and cast aside an opportunity to do some thrashing in certain quarters was greatly to the credit of the organization and strengthened public confidence in the young men's movement.

The issues of the approaching State, county and town campaign are of extraordinary importance to Bloomfield. By virtue of long established custom a Bloomfield man should again represent this district in the House of Assembly. Bloomfield has by a wise policy of continuing a good representative for many years in the County Board of Chosen Freeholders gained a valuable prestige in the county government. That fact should receive the serious consideration of every young man in the town as for the local offices to be filled the young men are sufficiently acquainted with the situation, and can be relied upon to keep the best interests of the town in the foreground of any line of action.

The San Francisco Fund.

TO THE CITIZENS OF BLOOMFIELD:
We congratulate you upon the hearty manner in which you have responded to the appeal for funds to relieve the distress of the California sufferers. Including the amount realized from the benefit entertainment, there has been raised over \$2,100. When it is considered that a large number of our citizens had made subscriptions, and when the typical man made in this town, it will be realized that the response has been very generous.

The information from the Pacific coast shows that any amount contributed can be used to good advantage, as it will be a long time before the conditions there become normal.

The Bloomfield relief fund will be closed Wednesday evening next, May 9, and it is our hope that the fund may reach the sum of \$2,500.

GEORGE FISHER, Mayor.
WM. P. SUTHER, Chairman, Board of Trade Relief Fund Committee.

A Congenial Companion.

The social value of the telephone in the farmhouse is one of its most appreciated attractions. The long lonely hours that have hitherto been among the bachelors which the farmer's wife has had to face, are done away with. When Mrs. Farmer, now long for company, she has only to go to the telephone and call up some neighbor and have a little refreshing chat and then she can go back to her work with the pleasant consciousness that at all times she is within reach of a neighborly call.—New Brunswick Home News.

Musical Instruction.
Miss Grace Willcocks will resume instructions on the piano September 11th. Residence and studio, 87 Orchard street. Arrangements can be made now.—Advt.

Have your lawn mower put in shape by S. P. Townsend through Frongstad Bros., Bloomfield Centre.—Advt.

Letter from San Francisco.

Samuel G. Hayter received a letter Monday from his son Newman, M. Hayter in San Francisco telling of his experience in the catastrophe which befell that city. Mr. Hayter says:

"I don't know as I will ever get the earthquake out of my mind. I awoke Wednesday morning hearing the most terrible rushing of noises, and, sitting up in bed, could not think what could be the matter. The first thing I knew was that while my trunk was on one side of the room and the window on the other, they both seemed to be coming towards each other, and to my surprise the trunk made a leap and out of the window it went. Chairs were dancing, and things on the mantel were with you. I went to the fishing worse than when I tumbled into the banks with you. I found my way to the street some time soon, as the building, in less than it takes to tell it, was a complete wreck."

"Everywhere you looked it was complete desolation. I saved nothing. I walked at least three miles in and out through falling buildings and ruins. Everything was on fire, and how we escaped with our lives I don't know. I was with you for two days without food of any kind or water to drink! All we did was to move further away and watch the fire creep up on us. Dead lies in the streets. Many were perished in the burning ruins. I was used to check the fire. Dynamite was completely destroyed with it, the 'chinks' being blown to atoms in their dens. I am so thankful that I am an O. K., even though all else is gone, and it is hard to say what I am going to do."

"The firm is talking about starting up again at Oakland, but everything is so unsettled that I cannot say what I shall do. I have had an experience which will last me my lifetime. I never could have supposed so much horror could have been possible. I shall write again soon as I can get settled down, and get rid of the horrible nightmare which I have had."

Trouble With Telephone Men.

There has been lively times in Brookdale during the past week over the stringing of telephone wires along the pipe-line right of way by the New York and New Jersey Telephone Company. In the agreement between the water company and the owners of land through which the pipe-line runs the land owners, it appears, have the right to use of the land for farming purposes. When the City of Newark purchased the pipe-lines from the East Jersey Water Company the city got permission to run a telephone line from the water department offices in Newark to New Foundland. Recently the city gave permission to the New York and New Jersey Telephone Company to use the right of way for a trunk line telephone.

The New York and New Jersey Telephone Company cut down the small poles that carried the Newark wire and replaced them with large poles, stringing the Newark wires on them as fast as owners in Brookdale regarded the action of the telephone company as a trespass and resented it as such. Cases where the company could meet the objections against their action for small considerations they did so; in some cases like that of Abraham Garbrant's land they went around it. In the case of the lands of William and Robert Heppner the company offered a compensation that was not at all satisfactory to the Messrs. Heppner and they cut the wires from the poles on their property, with the exception of one pole. The attempt to cut the wires of the Newark wire led to the arrest of two of the company's employees, and they were put under \$200 bonds to await the action of the Grand Jury. The telephone company had a large force of men on the ground. The Heppners were not at all frightened by the show of force and worked some skillful maneuvers in the contest. The probability is that the matter will be settled on a basis satisfactory to the Messrs. Heppner.

Boogie Standup at Glen Ridge.

There was a boogie standup contest on the Glen Ridge Golf Club's grounds on Saturday afternoon, in which B. W. Roy and Robert Mitchell tied one down. At match play to settle the tie, the result was the same. Finally a penny was tossed up and Mitchell won. The scores were: Mitchell, 1 down; Roy, 1 down; Ward, 1 down; 4 down; B. E. Noble, 4 down; E. L. R. Adams, 5; R. O. Thomson, 4 down; W. T. Fleck, 6; A. B. Pier, 7; J. Moore, 8; D. H. Standish, 9; H. D. Smith, 9; E. D. Congdon, 1; L. L. Smith, 10; W. R. Seymour, 11.

Ninth Assembly District.
Under the provisions of the new dividing the State into assembly districts, the Ninth Assembly District of Essex County comprises Bloomfield, Glen Ridge, Montclair, Nutley and Verona.

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Vichy Grand Grille, case 50 qts.	11.50	2.90
Hunyadi Janos, case 50 qts.	10.00	2.60
Apenta Water, 50 pints to case	5.50	1.45
Man-a-ces, case of 12 1/2 gals.	5.00	5.00
White Rock, case of 50 qts.	8.50	2.25
White Rock, case of 100 qts.	11.00	1.50
Buffalo Lithia, case of 12 1/2 gals.	4.75	4.75
Londonderry Lithia, case of 12 1/2 gals.	8.00	2.10
Londonderry Lithia, case of 50 qts.	11.00	2.50

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San Francisco Conflagration.

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